

**DAVIE WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL
ADVISORY BOARD
JUNE 18, 2002
5:30 P.M.**

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. Board members present were Chair Don Zane, Wayne Arnold, Michael Crowley, Gary Gaffney, Tom Green, Barry Mowell, Ronald Phillips and Gail Ling. Also present were Utilities Director Daniel Colabella and Board Secretary Jenevia Edwards recording the meeting. Jeffrey Harrod and ~~Daniel Lavrich~~ were absent.

2. SELECTION OF CHAIR

Mr. Arnold nominated Mr. Crowley, seconded by Ms. Ling, as Chair. As there were no other nominations, the nominations were closed. In a voice vote, with ~~Messrs. Mr. Harrod and Lavrich~~ being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 8-0)**

3. SELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

Mr. Mowell nominated Mr. Green, seconded by Mr. Zane, as Vice-Chair. As there were no other nominations, the nominations were closed. In a voice vote, with ~~Messrs Mr. Harrod and Lavrich~~ being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 8-0)**

4. SELECTION OF SECRETARY

Mr. Zane commented that the Board should ask Council to provide a secretary. Chair Crowley asked how other boards or committees were handling the issue. Mr. Arnold explained that he was the chair of a committee, and although there was some initial resistance, a secretary had been selected from within the committee.

Following a lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to present a proposal to Council requesting that the Board be provided with a secretary. Mr. Gaffney read the proposal which was accepted by the Board.

Mr. Gaffney made a motion, seconded by Mr. Zane, that the Board presents a proposal to Council requesting that the Board be provided with a Secretary. In a voice vote, with ~~Messrs. Mr. Harrod and Lavrich~~ being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 8-0)**

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: April 16, 2002

Mr. Arnold made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gaffney, to approve the minutes of April 16, 2002. In a voice vote, with Messrs. Harrod and Lavrich being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 8-0)**

6. PRESENTATION

**6.1 Future Treatment Facilities for the Town – Karl Kennedy, P.E.
Calvin, Giordano & Assoc.**

Mr. Kennedy explained that although the information had been presented before, a new presentation was necessary as the Town was planning to close the System One water treatment plant. He indicated that with the shut down of the north plant, the existing plant lacked the treatment capacity for the entire service area. He added that the remaining plants were able to meet the average daily flow; however, the south plant would not be able to meet the peak

capacity. Mr. Kennedy explained that assuming that there was no projected annexation or take over of any other area, the estimated build-out flow was estimated at 5-7 million gallons daily for

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the existing service areas. He advised that a water treatment plant should be sized to meet average days as well as peak days.

Mr. Kennedy discussed the need for improvement of water quality and the removal of disinfection by-products. He explained what disinfection by-products were, how they occurred and that they were regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Mr. Kennedy explained the two stages of the disinfection by-product rules indicating that Stage 1 was instituted in December 1988; however, the enactment of the Stage 2 rule had been extended but the date was not known. He discussed disinfection by-product control, the compliance date of ground water systems and quarterly monitoring requirement. Mr. Kennedy indicated that the Town was currently meeting the Stage 1 rule. He discussed the methods for color removal which included lime softening, enhanced coagulation, ion exchange, membrane softening and reverse osmosis. There was a lengthy discussion on lime softening and ion exchange with Mr. Kennedy indicating that the City of Pembroke Pines used an ion exchange system to treat their water. There was discussion regarding membrane systems and their benefits and shortfalls, and that this system was installed in other cities. Mr. Kennedy discussed reverse osmosis, commenting that brackish or salt water could be used with this process.

Patrick Davis, Vice President of Hazen and Sawyer, spoke on concentrate disposal and the different process used such as deep well injection, surface water disposal, and waste water treatment and disposal. He explained the deep well injection process and indicated that this was relatively expensive, and could cost as much as \$3,000,000. Mr. Davis indicated that one of the options to deep well injection included surface water disposal which was supported by the State of Florida which was about to pass legislation to allow surface water disposal. He explained that the Broward County Department of Natural Resources Protection was opposed to surface water disposal. Mr. Davis added that a hearing had been held and a decision would be made within 30 days. He expressed the opinion that surface water disposal was very cost effective and was a way in which to utilize a valuable resource. Mr. Davis discussed waste water treatment plant which was another method used to dispose of concentrate. This was permitted by the State, providing the treatment plant had adequate capacity. Mr. Davis also discussed direct disposal to waste water treatment plant effluent basin which was another alternative of concentrate disposal.

Mr. Kennedy discussed the benefits of blending the lime softened water with membrane softened water. He highlighted the preliminary cost estimates for nanofiltration and lime softening/and ion exchange. The cost for upgrading both the south water treatment facility and rehabilitation of the north water treatment plant was discussed as well. Mr. Kennedy advised that installation of an on-site generation system was also included in the cost for the upgrades. He referred to operating and maintenance costs and indicated that this was higher for the membrane plant.

Mr. Phillips asked about the cost for reverse osmosis skids. Mr. Davis explained that they were relatively expensive; however, in adding the skids, pumps would have to be added as well. Mr. Gaffney asked if the cost for the expanded plant capability for a larger plant for the reverse osmosis was part of the estimated cost. Mr. Kennedy explained that the base design was \$7,000,000 and the expansion to allow for Reverse Osmosis skids was another \$1,000,000.

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Mr. Phillips asked how many residents were provided with water service by the Town. Mr. Colabella responded that the amount was 8,500.

7. OLD BUSINESS

7.1 Everglades Restoration Project Update

This item was not discussed as the information was not available. Chair Crowley indicated that this should be placed on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Arnold informed the Board that he had a lengthy meeting with Mayor Venis who expressed concern about the proposed water increases approved for the Everglades Mobile Home Community and Palma Nova Mobile Home Park. He indicated that many of the residents were on fixed incomes and Mayor Venis hoped that the Boardmembers would express their opposition to the increases in some way.

Joe Fadden, 3040 SW 52 Way, stated that the proposed rate increase by Ferncrest was more than most residents were able to afford. He added that residents were being held hostage because aside from the rate increase, the water quality was very poor.

Charles Stagman, 3040 SW 52 Way, stated that the residents of Palma Nova Mobile Home Park were being held captive by the water company. He added that the residents had submitted a petition of 700 names to the Public Service Commission expressing opposition to the rate increase. Mr. Stagman indicated that between both parks, there were approximately 1,500 homes with 4,000 residents. He commented that the homeowner's association supported the residents in their fight against Ferncrest. Mr. Stagman discussed at length the ongoing problems with the water company most of which included water pressure problems and water quality.

Mr. Zane questioned whether Ferncrest adhered to the same guidelines for inspection as the Town. Mr. Colabella referred to the discussion on Trihalomethanes (THM's) and the method used for bleaching water, and explained that Ferncrest was under a 10,000 population limit, and there was no control by the State for THM's on plants in mobile home parks. Mr. Zane inquired if Ferncrest was required to send Consumer Confidence Reports to residents like the Town did, with Mr. Colabella responding negatively. Mr. Zane inquired if Mr. Stagman had contacted Ferncrest's owner or attorney. Mr. Stagman replied negatively.

Mr. Arnold indicated that the problems with Ferncrest had been ongoing for sometime and it was unfortunate. He hoped the Town would be able to purchase Ferncrest because water quality was important. Mr. Stagman explained how he believed that this could be accomplished. Chair Crowley inquired if the Town would be able to handle the additional residents. Mr. Colabella responded affirmatively.

Mr. Arnold asked the audience whether it would be helpful to them in their fight against Ferncrest if they received the support of the Board. There was an affirmative response.

Mr. Arnold made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mowell, that the Board supported the efforts of the residents of Palma Nova and Everglades Mobile Home Park to overturn the rate increase.

In a voice vote, with ~~Messrs. Mr. Harrod and Lavrich~~ being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 8-0)**

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Mr. Zane indicated that he was in agreement with the Board, but commented that the resolution that established the Board stipulated the extent of the Board's involvement. He added that the Board could only offer its support through the submission of a recommendation to Council.

Mr. Arnold made a motion seconded by Mr. Mowell, to amend the motion. In a voice vote, with ~~Messrs. Mr. Harrod and Lavrich~~ being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 8-0)**

Mr. Arnold made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mowell, to inform Council of the following: be it resolved that the Davie Water and Environmental Advisory Board offers its support to the Everglades Mobile Home Community and Palma-Nova Mobile Home Community in opposing the interim increase and any proposed future increase by Ferncrest Utilities. In a voice vote, with ~~Messrs. Mr. Harrod and Lavrich~~ being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 8-0)**

Mr. Mowell inquired if both communities and the homeowner's associations would like to receive service from the Town. He further inquired if it would be appropriate for the Board to pass a resolution to that effect. Mr. Colabella explained that an acquisition study would have to be done. Mr. Green added that the Town would have to purchase the water rights. A lengthy discussion followed regarding whether to add to the previous motion or to make a new motion. It was the consensus of the Board to make a new motion.

Mr. Mowell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Arnold, to recommend to the Town Council that it at least begin the process of investigating through eminent domain or whatever means, the acquisition of the water rights for the community. In a voice vote, with ~~Messrs. Harrod and Lavrich~~ being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 8-0)**

Mr. Zane asked if Council would ask that a study be completed to purchase Ferncrest once they received the recommendation from the Board. He further inquired if Ferncrest was purchased by the Town, who would pay, regardless of the cost. Mr. Colabella responded that it would be the residents who wanted to receive service from the Town. Mr. Stagman commented that whatever the cost, the residents could not afford it. A lengthy discussion followed with reference being made to the water issue between the City of Sunrise and the Town.

Chair Crowley expressed the opinion that he did not believe that the cost would be exorbitant to disconnect from an inferior quality service as it would be to purchase the facility. Mr. Colabella explained that the residents could not be disconnected from Ferncrest's system because there were water rights involved. Mr. Gaffney commented that Ferncrest had a contract to provide water service to the community which was not water rights. He added that further discussion of the issue should be deferred until information was received from the Public Service Commission as to whether Ferncrest would move forward with the increase.

Mr. Gaffney indicated that he had been contacted by Councilmember Starkey who asked the Board to work on three major projects over the next year. The projects involved the Fort

Lauderdale Airport Expansion, mitigation properties received through funding grant and open space through Broward County.

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Mr. Gaffney expressed the opinion that he believed Councilmember Starkey wanted the Board to appoint sub-committees to handle each project. He added that all three issues should be placed on the agenda and discussed at the next Board meeting.

9. COMMENTS AND/OR SUGGESTIONS

There were no comments and/or suggestions.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Gaffney made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Green, to adjourn. There being no objections, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Date Approved

Chair/Board Member

